



## Atlantic Central District



### DISTRICT



### NEWSLETTER

#### March 2017

We had a great weekend last month with Bishop Carter and Dr. Reggie McNeal who led workshops in the north and south(only Reggie) part of our district. There were over 350 people in attendance and I heard from many that the training they brought was very insightful.

For those not there let me share my big take-away. The Church must engage the community and bring God's Kingdom to those who live around our churches. The Church has become *church-centric*. This means we have for maybe one thousand plus years spent most of our resources – people and money – on ourselves. Reggie says in his book

#### **Missional Renaissance:**

*"Externally focused ministry leaders take their cues from the environment around them in terms of needs and opportunities. They look for ways to bless and to serve the communities where they are located. Much of their calendar space, financial resources, and organizational energy is spent on people who are not a part of their organization."*  
(p.7)

My hope is each church, as they review their vitality plan for their church, commits to connecting with their community through – a school, a homeless shelter, a food bank, etc. The new scorecard needs to measure how we are bringing **Life – The Kingdom** (Reggie's words) to our communities.

Gary

## **Don't Forget your March Reports!**

Child/Youth Protection Policy Adoption  
Fiscal Responsibility and Management Policy  
Employee Conduct Policy Adoption  
Annual Report to the District Housing Committee/Parsonage Checklist  
Disaster Recovery Quick Resource Survey  
Fund Balance Report for Year 2016

These are all due by March 31st. If you have questions, call the District office.

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## ***SAVE the DATE!!***

**Discipleship Workshops** sponsored by the Congregational Vitality Team

Saturday, Apr. 1 in the North District at Wesley UMC, West Melbourne

Saturday, May 6 in the South District at UMC of the Palm Beaches, West Palm Beach

Time: 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. (lunch provided)

### **PASTORS, STAFF AND LAITY INVITED**

Items covered will be Missional Alignment, Door to Core Pathway, Partnership Assimilation, Types of Discipling Groups, Connecting People to Groups, Training Group Leaders, Ongoing Care of Small Group Leaders, and Overseeing the Group System

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## **Preconference (Annual Conference) Workshop**

Sunday, May 7 at First Vero UMC, Vero Beach 3PM.

This workshop is for your Lay Representatives for Annual Conference. This information will include items that are being brought before the Annual Conference for voting.

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Are you or do you know a member age 17-35 who is attending or planning to attend college and attend church in one of the four conferences? If so, please let them know about your **Credit Union's college scholarship program**. Four winning applicants, one from each of our four conferences, Florida, North Georgia, South Georgia and Alabama-West Florida will receive a \$1000 scholarship.

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**DO YOU SERVE A CHURCH COMMITTED TO SHAPING THE NEXT GENERATION OF PASTORAL LEADERS?**

If so, please sponsor a Summer Pastoral Internship for 2017!

Here are the quick facts for hosting an Intern. Attached is a more detailed program description.

Internship Dates: Monday, May 29, 2017, through Friday, August 4, 2017

Intern Training Day: Friday, May 26, 2017 (students and supervising pastors)

Intern Reflection Day: Monday, August 7, 2017 (students only)

Hours: 30 hours/week as scheduled with supervising pastor

Housing: Provided in congregant's home, if needed

Salary: \$3,000.00 (\$1,500 host site, \$1,500 Office of Clergy Excellence)

If interested, please email or mail an intern job description for your church. Please feel free to contact the Office of Clergy Excellence if you have any questions about the program.

Holly Finley at [hfinley@flumc.org](mailto:hfinley@flumc.org)

Rev. Sara McKinley at [sara.mckinley@flumc.org](mailto:sara.mckinley@flumc.org)

[Program Description](#)



**ARE THERE YOUNG ADULTS IN YOUR CHURCH WHO WANT TO EXPLORE PASTORAL MINISTRY?**

If so, please give them the attached application for the 2017 Summer Pastoral Ministry Internship Program and encourage them to apply!

Please feel free to contact the Office of Clergy Excellence if you have any questions about the program.

Holly Finley at [hfinley@flumc.org](mailto:hfinley@flumc.org)

Rev. Sara McKinley at [sara.mckinley@flumc.org](mailto:sara.mckinley@flumc.org)

Office of Clergy Excellence

863-688-5563 x134

Attachment: [Internship Application](#)

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The Florida United Methodist Foundation is now accepting applications from first-year, college-bound United Methodist students for the 2017 Sinclair scholarships, and we need your help to spread the word.

Applicants must be full and active members of a Florida United Methodist church, have a record of church and community service, and have a grade point average of 2.5 or higher or academic performance that indicates ability to succeed in college. They must also be planning to attend a Florida or United Methodist college or university this fall.

Scholarship awards range from \$2,000 to \$3,000 and are renewable for up to three additional years for students who remain in good standing. The deadline to apply is **March 20.**

A [scholarship application](#) and other required forms are available for download on the foundation's website. More information is available by contacting Nadara Brock at [nbrock@fumf.org](mailto:nbrock@fumf.org) or 866-363-9673, ext. 7113, or visiting [www.fumf.org](http://www.fumf.org).

Below are several stories related to the scholarship, providing more information about how they benefit and support students:

[Scholarship recipients are driven, thankful](#)

[Sinclair Scholarship recipients offer hope for the future](#)

[Scholarship helps make dream of college a reality](#)



### "Journeys of Paul" Cruise

In June, 2017, Pastor John Gill (The Open Door, A United Methodist Community) and his wife Terri are leading a pilgrimage cruise across the Mediterranean to visit sites where the Apostle Paul traveled and ministered. For additional details, contact Pastor Gill @ [john.gill@flumc.org](mailto:john.gill@flumc.org).

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Join Sandi Bandieri, Adult Ministries Director for First Titusville September 20th - September 30th.  
500th Anniversary of Martin Luther's Reformation Tour of Germany



Contact Sandi Bandieri at (603) 785-2088 for more information.

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### **Calendar 2017**

March:

- 1 - Ash Wednesday
- 5 - 125th Anniversary for First UMC, Ft. Pierce
- 12 - 60th Anniversary for First UMC, Cocoa Beach
- 13-16 - Appointive Cabinet
- 31 March Reports Due

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### **Gary**

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